

Dear Mr. Westhoff and Mr. Machado,

In following up on our previous conversations I'm providing a brief description of some projects that may be of interest to the DPC and the DNHA. As an Antioch Planning Commissioner and President of our downtown community group; the Rivertown Preservation Society, I have been pursuing these two projects along with others that will enhance and promote public awareness of both the significance of our history and the importance and fragility of the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta. I hope that these may be of interest to you, both for their positive effect on our community and the possibility of a significant presence here for the Delta National Heritage Area as the southern gateway to the delta.

The first is a proposed path or bike trail that connects Black Diamond Mines East Bay Regional Park with Antioch's marina area through the Dow Wetlands Preserve. This would cross established paths such as the De Anza Trail and would utilize some existing paths and areas. The principle groups involved would be the EBRPs, the Cities of Antioch and Pittsburg, the Contra Costa Water District, and the Dow Wetlands Preserve. This would provide a north/south trail that connects the historic coal mines at Black Diamond to the historic Antioch waterfront through the pristine and vital Dow wetlands where it utilizes much existing trail.

The second is a waterfront park at the foot of second and E streets on the historic Antioch Lumber Company property now owned by the city. This location provides the most panoramic view of the delta and the confluence of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers that I know of and provides immense opportunities for access and education about history and the environment. It is also a replacement for the only other waterfront park that was turned into our new boat launching facility. Future planned San Francisco Bay Ferry service within walking distance and proximity to the new John March State Park (who built the first dock on the delta in the 1840s) give you an idea of what might be possible.

With all of that said; I am not necessarily knowledgeable about the level of involvement and collaboration there can, or will be, between the DNHA and primary cities of the area. I am interested in working with you in any way possible and look forward to more conversation as well as a possible visit, as mentioned by Mr. Westhoff. I will also try to attend the upcoming meeting of the DPC in Walnut Grove.

Thank you,
Kerry L. Motts